

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

With this amendment, new claims 43-51 are pending. Support for these claims is found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, at page 18, lines 15-24; page 20, lines 2-9; page 21, lines 11-13; page 22, lines 13-14; page 23, lines 13-21; page 24, lines 18-25; page 26, line 8 through page 27, line 10; page 28, line 22 through page 29, line 2; page 30, lines 9-29; page 31, lines 27-29; page 32, lines 2-5; page 33, lines 1-3 and 13-15; page 34, lines 17-18; page 35, line 23 through page 36, line 4; pages 36-40; page 46, lines 2-5; page 48, lines 1-9 and Table 2; page 49, line 10 through page 50, line 14; page 53, lines 15 through page 54, line 11 and Table 3; at SEQ ID NOs:1-39 of the informal sequence listing; and Figure 2. Support for fusion proteins is found in the application at, for example, page 40, lines 3-9. These amendments add no new matter.

The first paragraph of the specification is amended to include appropriate priority claims and incorporation by reference of earlier applications. Deletion of the phrase "and claims the benefit" from claims to priority of non-provisional applications is done solely for compliance with language recommendations for claiming benefit of priority issued by the USPTO in 1268 OG 89, March 23, 2003.

CONCLUSION

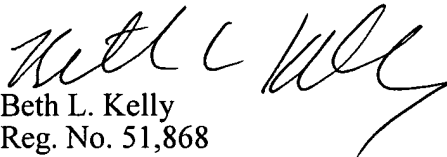
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Gilbert and Wakarchuk
Prelim. Amdt. dated April 8, 2004

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachments
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